

# News

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**FOR RELEASE:**

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## **SEATTLE-TACOMA-BREMERTON AREA CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES: NOVEMBER 2001 GROCERY AND ENERGY PRICES DECLINE, SHELTER UNCHANGED**

Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton area grocery prices, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) food at home index, declined 0.4 percent in November and were 4.5 percent higher than last year's level. Regional Commissioner Stanley P. Stephenson of the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics said the food at home index now stands at 184.0. This means grocery shoppers in the greater Seattle area need to spend \$184.00 today for a basket of food items that cost \$100.00 in 1982-84. Local area CPI data are not seasonally adjusted.

The shelter index did not change in November, while over the year it advanced 4.9 percent. Within shelter, the rent of primary residence index increased 0.2 percent this month while the owners' equivalent rent of primary residence index increased 0.3 percent. During the past 12 months, these two indexes moved up 6.3 and 5.5 percent, respectively.

The special aggregate index for energy dropped 4.0 percent this month, but measured 4.8 percent higher than November 2000. Gasoline prices fell 6.8 percent in November and consumers paid 10.2 percent less for gasoline than they did in November 2000. The household fuels index decreased 0.9 percent, but compared to a year ago, household fuels prices were up 27.8 percent. Electricity prices declined 1.0 percent and utility natural gas service showed no price change in November. The indexes for electricity and utility natural gas services have advanced 37.0 and 15.2 percent, respectively, in the past 12 months.

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods

Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Sep. 2001	Oct. 2001	Nov. 2001	Nov. 2000	Sep. 2001	Oct. 2001
Expenditure category						
All items .....	-	187.9	-	-	-	-
All items (1967=100) .....	-	572.7	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	-	183.4	-	-	-	-
Food .....	-	184.7	-	-	-	-
Food at home .....	181.0	184.7	184.0	4.5	1.7	-0.4
Food away from home .....	-	186.3	-	-	-	-
Alcoholic beverages .....	-	170.6	-	-	-	-
Housing .....	-	198.4	-	-	-	-
Shelter .....	216.6	215.6	215.6	4.9	-0.5	0.0
Rent of primary residence (1).....	206.2	207.7	208.1	6.3	0.9	0.2
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (1) (2) .....	222.5	223.3	224.0	5.5	0.7	0.3
Fuels and utilities .....	-	159.7	-	-	-	-
Fuels .....	161.6	164.1	162.6	27.8	0.6	-0.9
Gas (piped) and electricity (1).....	195.4	198.6	197.2	30.0	0.9	-0.7
Electricity (1).....	196.5	208.1	206.0	37.0	4.8	-1.0
Utility natural gas service (1).....	160.0	147.6	147.6	15.2	-7.8	0.0
Household furnishings and operations .....	-	177.5	-	-	-	-
Apparel .....	-	126.4	-	-	-	-
Transportation .....	-	163.6	-	-	-	-
Private transportation .....	-	169.4	-	-	-	-
Motor fuel .....	174.8	172.0	160.3	-10.2	-8.3	-6.8
Gasoline (all types) .....	178.3	175.5	163.5	-10.2	-8.3	-6.8
Gasoline, unleaded regular (3).....	194.9	191.1	177.3	-10.9	-9.0	-7.2
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade (3) (4).....	138.7	137.4	127.9	-10.1	-7.8	-6.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium (3).....	162.6	160.5	150.7	-8.9	-7.3	-6.1
Medical care .....	-	260.2	-	-	-	-
Recreation (5).....	-	100.8	-	-	-	-
Education and communication (5).....	-	107.1	-	-	-	-
Other goods and services .....	-	277.2	-	-	-	-

See footnotes at end of table.

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods

Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (Continued)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Sep. 2001	Oct. 2001	Nov. 2001	Nov. 2000	Sep. 2001	Oct. 2001
Commodity and service group						
All items .....	-	187.9	-	-	-	-
Commodities .....	-	162.2	-	-	-	-
Commodities less food and beverages .....	-	150.7	-	-	-	-
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	-	154.1	-	-	-	-
Durables .....	-	147.5	-	-	-	-
Services .....	-	212.4	-	-	-	-
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care .....	-	184.4	-	-	-	-
All items less shelter .....	-	178.0	-	-	-	-
Commodities less food .....	-	151.4	-	-	-	-
Nondurables .....	-	168.4	-	-	-	-
Nondurables less food .....	-	154.9	-	-	-	-
Services less rent of shelter (2) .....	-	214.1	-	-	-	-
Services less medical care services .....	-	208.4	-	-	-	-
Energy .....	169.1	168.8	162.0	4.8	-4.2	-4.0
All items less energy .....	-	191.4	-	-	-	-
All items less food and energy .....	-	193.0	-	-	-	-

1 This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in January, 1999.

2 Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

3 Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

4 Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

5 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available.

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.